Panchkarma and Ksharshutra procedures in addition to other treatment facilities.

There is no proposal for recognition of private Ayurvedic hospitals under CGHS in Delhi at present.

People killed by tobacco related diseases

2172. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether over eight lakh people are killed annually by tobacco related diseases and several lakh more are disabled in the country;

(b) whether tobacco generate an annual revenue of nearly Rs. 5550 crore but it spends over Rs. 13500 crores on treating patients from tobacco related diseases; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to discourage the use of tobacco among the Indians specially among the women, whose intake of smoking has been increasing in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In order to deal with the enormity of health hazards caused by tobacco, the Government brought forward the Cigarettes (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, in 1975 which, *inter-alia* made it mandatory to display a statutory warning 'Cigarettes smoking is injurious to health' on all packages of Cigarettes and in all advertisements. The State Government/U.Ts. have been requested from time to time to implement the provisions of the Act strictly.

To discourage use of Cigarette and other tobacco products, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare introduced a comprehensive Bill, namely, "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 2001 in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March, 2001. Salient features of the Bill, *inter-alia,* include ban on all forms of advertisements in respect of all tobacco products, display of statutory warning and content of nicotine and tar content on packages prominently, prohibition of smoking in public places, prohibition of sale of tobacco products to persons below the age of 18 years.

The said Bill has referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development for examination and report. The Standing Committee presented its report to Rajya Sabha on 5-12-2001. The matter is now under consideration in Rajya Sabha.

New Anti-Anthrax Vaccine

2173. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "JNU lab could give Washington its latest weapon against terror" stating that a bio-technology Scientist Shri Bhatnagar has developed an anti-anthrax vaccine, with much less toxic effects that the one developed lately by the Pasteur Institute, which appeared in The Indian Express, dated the 4th November, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the vaccine has been finally tested for its efficacy, toxicity and side-effects; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The preparation is yet to undergo animal/clinical trial.

Potential of Ayurvedic/Herbal drugs in the international market

2174. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ayurvedic/herbal drugs have great potential in international market;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give some concessions to herbal drug industry;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government will give such concessions to domestic herbal drug manufacturers ?